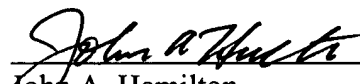


CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on June 28, 2004.


John A. Hamilton
Reg. No. 48,946

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: John L. CARTIER
Serial No: 09/772,172
Filed: January 29, 2001
For: ICE BREAKER MAT

Examiner: Victor S. CHANG
Art Unit: 1771
Confirmation No.: 9721

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To: Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Response (E) to Office Action Under 37 C.F.R. §1.111

Sir:

This paper is being provided in response to the (non-final) Office Action dated 26 March 2004, for the above-captioned U.S. patent application. No fees are believed necessary for submission and consideration of this response, however, in the event that additional fees are deemed necessary, such fees (and associated petitions related thereto) are authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 03-2410, Order No. 29026-P01.

Claims 1-10 are currently pending in the application. Through the Amendments and the Remarks that follow, the objections and rejections of claims 1-10 are addressed and overcome.

Amendments to the claims begin on page 3 of this paper.

Atty. Docket No.: 29026-P01
Appl. Ser. No.: 09/772,172
Reply to Office Action dtd. 26 March 2004

Remarks begin on **page 5** of this paper.

An **Appendix A** hereto including a Rule 132 declaration and supporting documents begins following **page 7** of this paper.